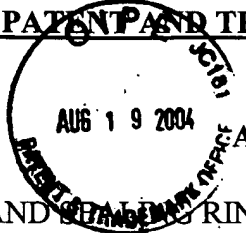


IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln of: MELLER ET AL **Atty. Docket No.:** LIP039
Title: SEALING RING AND SEALING RING ARRANGEMENT
Serial No.: 10/801,095
Filed: MARCH 15, 2004



Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 relate to the subject matter of the present invention and are brought to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 1.98.

WO 03/044354 A1 and DE 24 05 176 B2 are not in the English language. By way of a brief description of the reference, an English language abstract for WO 03/044354 A1 is enclosed. DE 24 05 176 B2 corresponds to US 3,895,815, which is in the English language. A copy of US 3,895,815 is enclosed.

DE 43 41 386 A1 is not in the English language. DE 43 41 386 A1 corresponds to European patent application EP 663 548. The English language abstract for EP 663 548 is enclosed. Additionally, it discloses the supporting spring 9, 14 may be arranged in the annular groove pressing the piston ring 7 axially against the conical groove flank 5. Alternatively, the ring may be designed tensionless. According to a further embodiment, at the groove flank 5 a second ring 12 having a corresponding flank can be arranged. One of the rings, 7, 12 can be tensioned inwardly. A supporting spring 14 being under radial inwardly tension may be arranged

axially between the first and the second piston ring 7, 12.

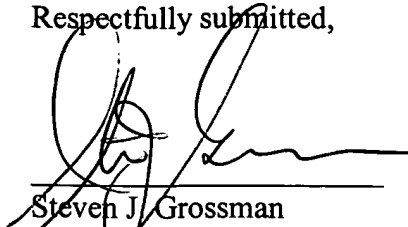
DE 199 53 384 C1 is not in the English language. It corresponds to EP 1098082. A limited translation is that it discloses a piston of a combustion engine which is designed to withstand high thermal conditions. The piston is provided with a piston ring zone 1 having ring grooves 2a, 2b to receive rings for wiping oil (grooves 2b, 2c) or to receive a compression ring (groove 2a). In order to provide a piston having an improved cooling in the area of the piston bottom and the piston rings and having a reduced weight, the outer cooling recesses 20 have a conical shape, whereby the outer cooling recesses 20 are inclined inwardly with respect to the piston axis 5 and taper with increasing distance to the corresponding hub 11 towards the combustion area 3, whereby the outer cooling recesses 20 are transformed into an inner cooling recess 21 being open inwardly and downwardly.

This statement is being submitted prior to a first office action on the merits. While this statement contains all the relevant information presently known to the applicant, it should not be interpreted as a representation that an exhaustive search has been conducted or that no other relevant information exists. Also, this statement should not be interpreted as a representation that any cited reference is prior art, or that any cited reference is "material to patentability" as defined in 37 CFR §1.56. The applicant invites the Examiner to make an independent evaluation of each cited reference, copies of which are enclosed, to determine their relevance to the subject matter of the present application.

Finally, the applicant urges that the claims are patentable over the disclosed information.

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Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Aug. 17, 2004, at Manchester, New Hampshire.

By April T Davis

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(e))

Docket No.
LIP039

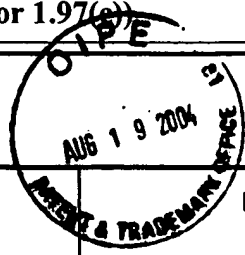
In Re Application Of: **MELLER ET AL**

Serial No.
10/801,095

Filing Date
MARCH 15, 2004

Examiner

Group Art Unit



Title: **SEALING RING AND SEALING RING ARRANGEMENT**

Address to:
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

37 CFR 1.97(b)

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

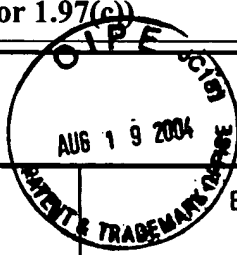
OR

☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
LIP039

In Re Application: **MELLER ET AL**



Serial No.

10/801,095

Filing Date

MARCH 15, 2004

Examiner

Group Art Unit

SEALING RING AND SEALING RING ARRANGEMENT

Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. _____ as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of _____
- ☐ Credit any overpayment.
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*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.

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Steven J. Grossman

Reg. No. 41,252

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Manchester, NH 03101

Customer No. 32047

Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on August 17, 2004 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

April Davis

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate

Dated: **August 17, 2004**

CC:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

LIP039

Application Number

10/801,095

Applicant(s)

MELLER ET AL

Filing Date

MARCH 15, 2004

Group Art Unit

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3,895,815	7/22/1975	PANIGATI	277	171	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	2	DE 43 41 386 A1	6/8/1995	German w/English abstract	F02F	5/00		✓
	3	WO03/044354 A1	5/30/2003	PCT W/English abstract	F02F	5/00		✓
	4	DE 199 53 384 C1	1/18/2001	German	F02F	3/22		✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.